# Utah Public Utilities, Energy and Technology Interim Committee

June 16, 2021







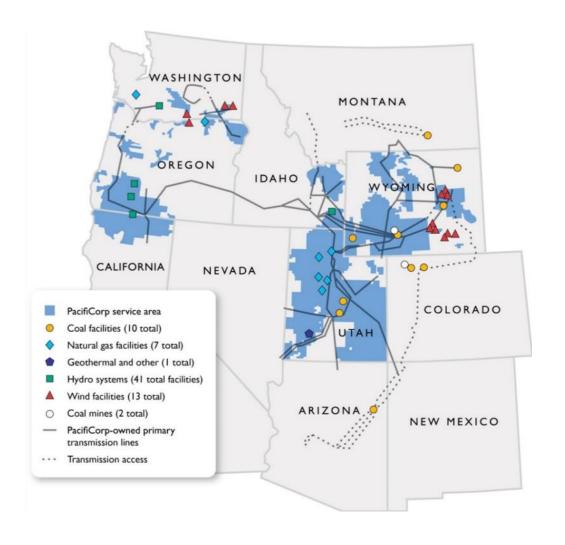






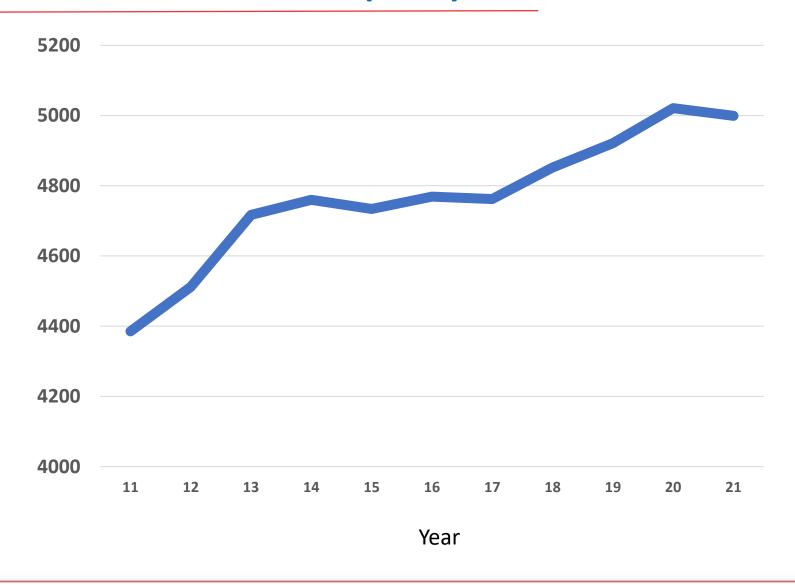


## **PACIFICORP OVERVIEW**

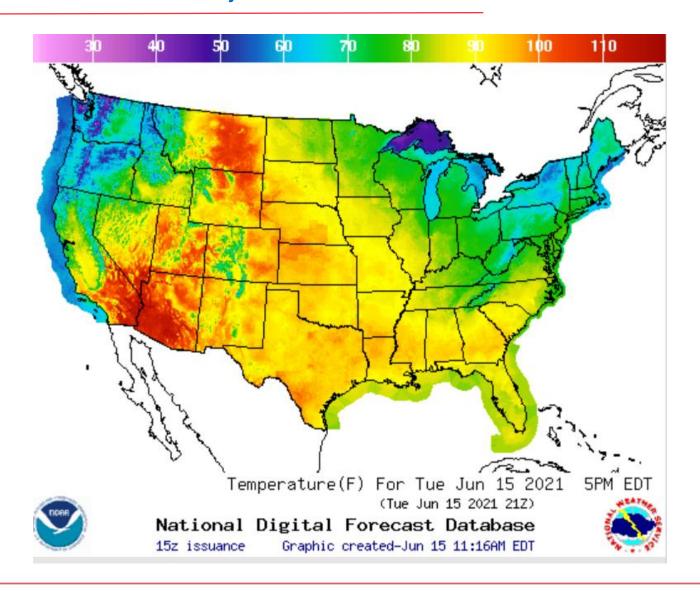


- Rocky Mountain Power and Pacific Power
- 5,600 employees
  - More than 1,800 Utah employees
- 2.0 million electricity customers in six states
  - 948,000 Utah customers in 26 counties
- 141,000 square miles of service territory in six states
- 16,500 miles of transmission in 10 western states
- 10,894 MW owned generation capacity
  - Thermal, hydroelectric, wind, solar and geothermal

## WASATCH FRONT PEAK LOAD (MW)



## TEMPERATURE – JUNE 15, 2021



## **HOUSE BILL 66 (2020)**

- Recently passed legislation requires Rocky
  Mountain Power to develop a plan for how it
  will prevent wildland fires caused by electrical
  equipment
  - Plans must be approved by the Utah Public Service Commission every three years with input from the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands and other interested parties
  - First plan approved October 13, 2020
  - Annual compliance filing required every year



## **FOUNDATION OF PLAN**

## 1. Be situationally aware of environmental risks

- Monitor fire weather conditions
- Implement various operational strategies during fire risk periods
- Increase collaboration and coordination with public safety partners

## 2. Ensure facilities are resilient to limit potential for ignition

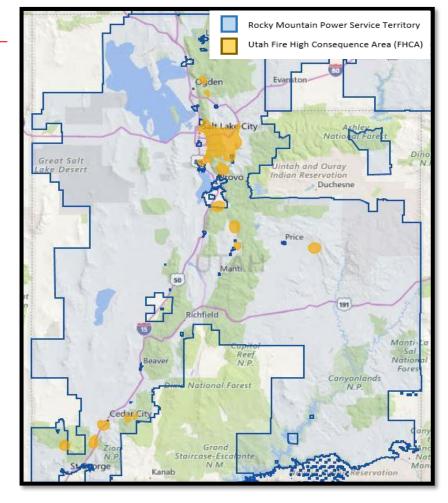
- Enhanced inspection programs and accelerate certain condition corrections
- Enhance vegetation management practices
- Deploy covered conductor

## 3. React rapidly to fault events and limit arc energy created

- Deploy more sensitive protective coordination equipment
- Replace certain fuse locations with non-expulsion equipment

## **FOUNDATION OF PLAN**

- Fire High Consequence Areas (FHCAs) are used to prioritize wildfire mitigation initiatives, such as increased inspections, system hardening and modified operating practices
- Utilizing fire threat modeling concepts, areas were identified in Utah where there is an elevated risk of utility-associated wildfires to occur and spread rapidly, and where communities face an elevated risk of damage or harm from wildfires



	Overhead Total Line Miles	Distribution Line Miles (Overhead only)	Transmission Line Miles (46kV and Above)	Substations
FHCA (Utah)	699 (4%)	489 (4%)	210 (3%)	26 (5%)
RMP Utah Total	18,100	10,959	7,141	503

## **2020 FIRE SEASON ACTIVITY**

#### Wildfire training facility built

#### Detailed design and estimating of system hardening projects

- 120 miles of transmission and 475 miles of distribution lines planned to be rebuilt
- Over 5,000 expulsion fuses planned for replacement
- Pilot projects to evaluate new technology around fault detection

#### Additional weather stations

- 21 Weather Stations currently installed
- 10 additional planned for 2021
- 100 on order for future deployment

#### Continued collaboration with Department of Forestry, Fire and State Lands

• 9 HD cameras installed with 5 more planned

Alternate recloser/relay settings available in new equipment

Pole replacement program







## **HD CAMERA – JUNE 15, 2021**



## **PRE-FIRE SEASON ACTIVITY**

#### **Visual Inspections**

Embedded into the ongoing program

#### **Vegetation Inspections**

- Inspection of FHCA circuits
- Pole Clearing

#### Weather Station Monitoring

Maintenance of last year's installed stations

#### Situational Awareness

- Meteorologist department
- Risk modeling and weather forecasting

#### **Operational Practices**

- Wildfire refresher training conducted with field employees by end of May
- No test energize policy during red flag warning days





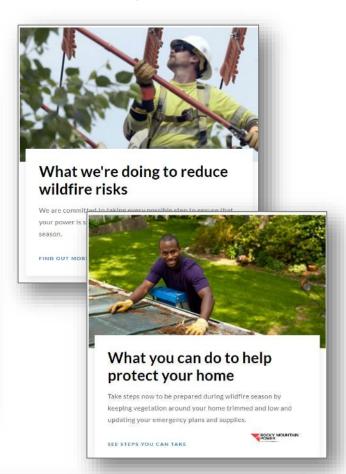
## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

- ✓ Advertising
  - Print
  - Radio
  - Digital
  - Social
- ✓ Media outreach
- ✓ Bill Insert
- ✓ Webinar
- ✓ Informational sheets
- ✓ Resource center on website

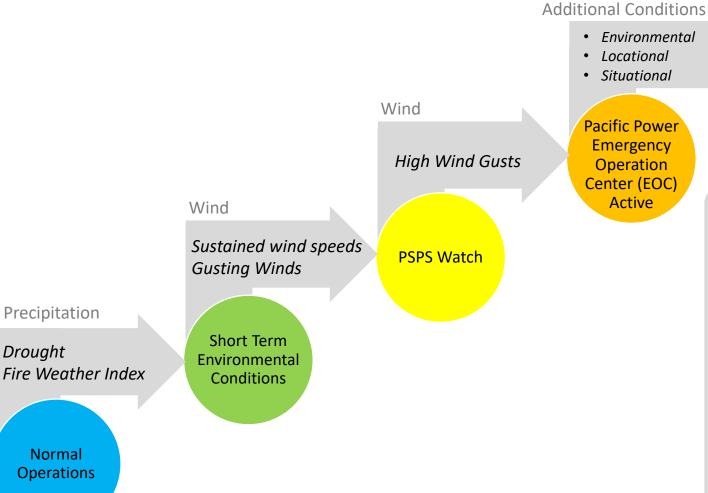
## Customer Communication Wildfire Mitigation and Safety







## **PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUT-OFF (PSPS)**



Precipitation

Normal

**Operations** 

Drought

**Public** Safety Power Shut-off

While primarily elevated through environmental conditions the decision to implement PSPS considers additional inputs:

#### **Environmental**

Situational

**Pacific Power** Emergency

Operation Center (EOC) Active

- ✓ Recent precipitation
- ✓ Wind directionality
- ✓ Recent fire activity throughout service territory

#### Locational

- ✓ Alternative ways to re-route power to affected areas
- ✓ Impacts on mandatory or voluntary evacuation orders in place

#### Situational

- ✓ Real-time situational awareness information from field personnel
- ✓ Current fire activity throughout service territory
- ✓ Input from local emergency services and response authorities

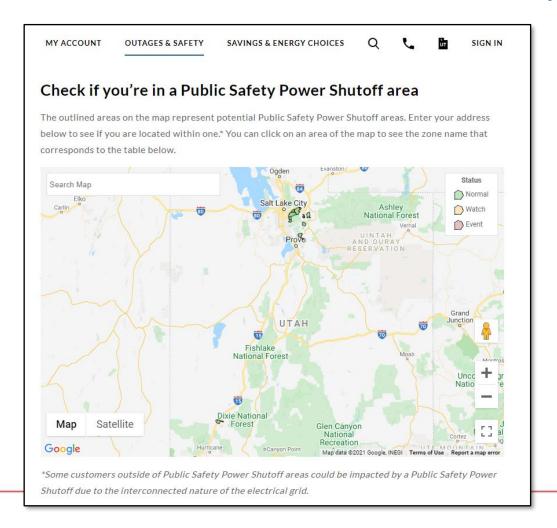
## **PSPS NOTIFICATION TIMELINE**

## Rocky Mtn Power EOC monitors situation and communication

- 72 48 Hours, Potential PSPS: Forecast received. Contact emergency management agencies followed by state regulatory authority, media, social media, customers (according to chosen method) and community-based organizations.
- 24 Hours, Potential PSPS: Monitor and communicate to emergency management and customers. All customers receive a call in addition to other methods of notification. All social media platforms updated including website. Notification to identified life support customers.
- 2 Hours, Imminent PSPS: Two hour imminent alert calls placed to all customers. List of uncontacted life support customers is provided to the incident commander. All social media platforms updated including website. Emergency management, the media, and community-based organizations are updated.
- 1 Hour, Imminent PSPS: One hour imminent alert calls placed to all customers. All social media platforms updated including website. Emergency management and the media are updated.
- Event Begins: Event begins calls are placed to all customers. All social media platforms updated including website. Emergency management and the media are updated.

## **PSPS COMMUNICATION**

## Customer Communication Public Safety Power Shutoff



Public safety power shutoff forecasting										
This table shows the Public Safety Power Shutoff status.										
NAME	TODAY	TOMORROW	2 DAYS OUT	3 DAYS OUT	4 DAYS OUT	5 DAYS OUT	6 DAYS OUT			
Cedar City	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Jordanelle North Shore	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Little Cottonwood	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Mouth of Big Cottonwood	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Mt. Dell	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Olympus Cove and Millcreek Canyon	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Park City	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Summit Park	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Wallsburg	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			
Wasatch Mtn. SP	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal			

